



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Dolores Ranger District
San Juan National Forest

29211 Hwy 184
Dolores, CO 81323-9308
Phone 970-882-7296
Fax 970-882-6841
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan>

File Code: 1950

Date: January 3, 2013

Dear Interested Party,

The Dolores Public Lands Office is seeking public input on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the **KM 3D Seismic Project**. It has been over a year since we asked for scoping comments on this project in November, 2011. During this time, we have developed the alternatives, added or modified the design features, and documented the environmental effects of the alternatives. You are receiving this letter because you provided comments during scoping. Issues that were identified during scoping were considered in the development of two action alternatives and project design criteria described in detail in the EA.

The Environmental Assessment is available online at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanjuan/projects. You may also pick up a paper or CD copy of the EA at our office 29211 Hwy 184, from 8:00 to 4:30 Monday thru Friday. Copies of the EA have also been placed at local libraries. If you would like the EA mailed to you please contact us.

This project would involve an exploratory, shot-hole, three-dimensional (3D) seismic survey of the Doe Canyon Deep Unit, in portions of Townships 39, 40, and 41 North and Ranges 16, 17, and 18 West. The area includes the "Glade", Benchmark Mountain, Narraguinne Canyon and Dolores River Canyon. The proposed project includes the use of helicopters, portable drill rigs, detonation of small explosive charges within shot holes and receiver arrays to record seismic data and map underground geology.

The deciding officer will be me for Forest Service lands within the project area and Connie Clementson, Tres Rios Field Manager for BLM lands within the project area. Information about how to comment is provided below. If you have additional questions please contact Robert Garrigues, Deborah Kill, or me at 970-882-7296.

How to Comment

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of *this* notice in the *Durango Herald*. The publication date of this notice is the exclusive means for calculating this comment period.

To be eligible to appeal the subsequent decision on this project, an individual or group must provide comment or otherwise express interest in the proposed action during *this* comment period. Those individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible for appeal must provide the information as stated in 36 CFR 215.6 (3). Regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.



Written comments must be submitted to: Robert Garrigues, Project Leader, 29211 Hwy 184, Dolores, CO 81323, or hand-delivered to the Dolores District Office between 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments may also be faxed to: Attn: Robert Garrigues, fax number 970-882-6841.

Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), and Word (.doc) to :comments-rocky-mountain-san-juan-mancos-dolores@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification. For electronically mailed comments the sender should normally receive an automated acknowledgement from the agency as a confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement receipt of comments, it is the senders responsibility to insure timely receipt by other means (36 C.F.R. 215.6 (4) (iii)).

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who only submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215.14.

Thank you for your interest in public land management.

Sincerely,



DEREK J. PADILLA
District Ranger
Dolores Ranger District